

The Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company

PCT#

Akron, Ohio 44316-0001

PATENT AND TRADEMARK DEPARTMENT

CABLE ADDRESS "GOODYEAR-AKRON" U.S.A. - TELEX 66-487 OR 64-0550

Our Ref: DN1996-221USA



May 4, 1999

EI697209904US

Assistant Commissioner
for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Re: International Patent Application No PCT/US96/19055

Dear Sirs:

Enclosed herewith is the necessary documentation for entering the National Phase for the subject patent application.

The national phase will begin on or about May 27, 1999.

Sincerely,

D E Wheeler, Patent Attorney
Reg. No. 29,726

DEW:pp

Encls: Transmittal Letter Under 35 U.S.C. §371
Declaration and Power of Attorney
International Search Report (w/references)
Amendments (if any)
Information Disclosure Statement (Form PTO-1449)
International Preliminary Examination Report
Substitute Specification